

Columbia School Board Meeting Minutes							
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Date	05/05/2021
Time	5:30 p.m.
Location	Columbia Town Offices
Chairperson	Christopher Brady

School Board Members				Principal		SAU Members	
E	Chris Brady	P	Carrie Klebe	P	Kim Wheelock	P	Debra Taylor
P	Stacey Campbell					P	Cheryl Covill

Roll Call: Vice Chairperson Carrie Klebe called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Agenda Adjustment: None

Reading of the Minutes:

S. Campbell / C. Klebe: Motion to approve the minutes of April 7, 2021.
VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Special Reports: None

School Administrator’s Report: Kim Wheelock

- Established an interview committee for the following positions:
 - English
 - 5th Grade
- State Assessments are the week after next; letter went home to parents.
- Summer Academy for grades 4-6; letter of interest went home to parents.
- Kim attended Crisis Intervention Training
- May events are as follows
- May 3-7 Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week
- May 7 Pre-K and K registration (current Kindergarten not in session)
- May 8 Senior Class Trip – chaperoned by Class Advisors Ron & Katie
- May 13 National Honor Society Induction Ceremony with Advisor Kathi
- May 27 Band 6:00 pm, Chorus 7:00 pm (two people per student)
- Senior Signs have been installed in Kiwanis Park
- After graduation a parade, “Senior Wheels”, will escorted by the Chief of Police
- The seniors did not want to do a class night.
- Staff and community members will be participating in “Adopt A Senior” for whomever would like to provide a card for each senior bag.
- Buddy Trask is the guest speaker at graduation.

- Kim approached the seniors about their thoughts on burying a time capsule on school property to commemorate this unique year to be uncovered by the class of their choosing or at their 10, 15 or 20 year reunion.

Superintendent's Report: Debra Taylor

- Website Feedback Sought
- School Year End Plans
 - Schools within SAU #7 are planning in-person graduation ceremonies at all of our schools this spring.
 - The following dates have been finalized:
 - Colebrook HS Graduation: Thursday, June 10 at 6:00 pm.
 - Pittsburg HS Graduation: Saturday, June 12 at 10:00 am.
 - Stewartstown Eighth Grade Graduation: Wednesday, June 16 at 5:00 pm.
- Educational and Academic Outcomes
 - Our schools continue to monitor our student's progress in reading and mathematics through local assessments.
 - This summer we have several professional development events planned for our teachers and support staff. As you know, we organized a regional curriculum committee this year which includes teachers and administrators from all schools in SAU 7 and Canaan. This team has provided direction and guidance as we plan our professional development with an eye toward school improvement. What follows is a list of these development opportunities and a brief description. All of these events will be funded through our grants.
 - Educational Design Institute – June 21-25
 - Self-Paced Curriculum Work – July 1-31
 - Responsive Classroom – August 16-19
 - Crisis Prevention and Intervention Response – August 24 and 25
 - A.L.I.C.E. School Safety Training – August 26
 - Technology Training – Summer and coming school year 21-22
- Long Term Planning
 - The majority of our August 12, SAU 7 Board Meeting to long-term planning. The SAU 7 strategic plan is expiring, and it is time to reflect on our progress and chart our future for the school districts in our region!
 - Propose that our school board chairs or their representative join the Superintendent for an ad hoc committee to plan for this event. The ad hoc meeting will be held in June (tentative Tuesday, June 8 at 5:30 pm).
 - The August SAU 7 meeting will be held at the Columbia Town Hall
 - During the summer retreat at our August 12 SAU 7 Board Meeting the aim is to set specific goals to guide our work for the coming year.
- Legislative Work
 - HB 2 School Funding – Testimony this week
 - A few bills addressed this week:
 - Private rights of action
 - Property for Charter School
 - Certification Bill
 - Upcoming on Cooperative School District Formula
 - Bill to pass the Naturalization Exam – referred to committee.
 - HB 545 – Banking option for Non Chartered Banks

Business Administrator's Report: Cheryl Covill

- Discussed bus routes.
- Colebrook is looking to sell the remaining Kitchen Equipment at Colebrook Academy. We will be advertising in the near future.
- ESSER II grants are available for grant writing and submission. Under the new guidelines, Request for Proposals will be required for most services. I would like to investigate updating the HVAC system. This would mean hiring an engineer to assess our system and design/develop and RFP for replacing or updating. If ESSER II and ESSER III are significantly funded I would like to explore hiring a Project Manager as part of these grants.
- Food Service Programs and Cost
 - Early indicators from USDA will continue free meals to students during the 21-22 school year under the Summer Seamless Option waiver. I am waiting for confirmation from the NHDOE. There is the Emergency Operation Reimbursement Cost program that the NHDOE is currently writing in the State plan. This will reimburse most SAUs with some money for the early COVID period which was March – June.
- Budget Analysis was distributed at the last meeting. Any Questions?
- There are several new provisional requirements that fall under recently adopted federal COVID Acts. President Biden signed ARPA into law on March 11, 2021. Under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA).
 - COBRA
 - Premium Assistance – Between April 1 and September 30, 2021, the federal government will pay 100% of COBRA premiums for Assistance Eligible Individuals and their dependents. What this means to us, we will be responsible to identify eligible employees during the COBRA window, offering this benefit, add to our plan and pay for the plan. As I understand it, we will receive a credit on our quarterly report. This potential could tie up district funds for a while.
 - Flexible Spending Accounts – COVID Relief
 - Under the COVID Relief act we can extend the grace period to our employees who elected to participate in the Flexible Spending Accounts. This will increase the time to spend down funds from 2 ½ months to 12 months beyond the school year. I feel our employees could benefit with this extension as many put off doctors' visits, and/or medical procedures during the COVID period.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Discussed General Assurances, to Participate in Federal Programs.

S Campbell/C Klebe: Motion to approve General Assurances to Participate in Federal Programs.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Connecticut River Collaborative Committee Update:

- Meeting of the Collaborative Committee reviewed the Projected Financial Statements. Appointed a subcommittee to look into options and address if funds be found to build a new school? The subcommittee meet with a representative from Anne Custers office to explore funding options.
- The committee meets Thursday May 6, 2021 at Colebrook Academy and Elementary School. They will be discussing and voting on a plan option.
 - Pursue federal funding sources for a new school which may take years.
 - Reorganize with existing buildings and continue exploring a plan.
 - This plan is not feasible to pursue at this point in time

Information: None

Other Business: None

Next Meeting Date:

- Columbia School Board Meeting: June 2, 2021 5:30 pm - Columbia Town Office

Adjournment:

S. Campbell / C. Klebe: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIES

Respectively Submitted,
Cheryl Covill
Business Administrator

Adopted 06/02/2021